CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY]	Bolgaria/USSR	REPORT						
SUBJECT S	Soviet Ships in the Port of Varn and Shipments to the USSR	DATE DISTR.	28 April 1953	1 1953				
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- In the period 1950-1951, Soviet ships of 7,000-8,000 tons arrived in Varna every
 week or two with cargoes of sulphur, etc. for the manufacture of explosives. These
 materials were later transported to an explosives factory in the neighborhood of
 Varna, across from a village on an elevated site behind the airfield. The depot
 at the factory is divided into three sections.
- 2. These materials were in packages weighing 50 kilograms each. After unloading, these packages were piled up in a large open-air depot and were later loaded on auto vehicles and sometimes shipped inland. In one night, 20 loaded railroad cars were noted. A factory which manufacturers explosives is located seven or eight kilometers north of Ruse, in "Lipnik" woods beyond a steep slope. Lipnik village is in the immediate vicinity of the woods.
- Sometimes the Soviet ships which enter the port of Varna unload arms, guns, munitions, etc., which are later loaded on railroad cars by Army personnel assigned to this duty.
- 4. In the period 1950-1951, at least 10 ships of approximately 10,000 tons each, arrived in the pert with cargoes of guns, munitions, etc. From land it was possible to perceive a large number of trucks on the decks of the ships, as well as varnish and paint in small barrels or cartons. Each vessel had a cargo of 70 to 100 tons of paints, which were put in depots and were later sent inland by railroad.
- 5. Other ships of 5,000-6,000 tons which arrived in Varna were carrying cotton bales, weighing 200-300 kilograms each, from the USSR. During this period, 30 Soviet ships transported cotton, during the winter as well as the summer. The raw cotton was sent to the Tekstil Factory (formerly the Asen Nikolov Factory) which is located near Kalentir (sic) and employs 1,500 workers. The raw materials are processed according to the American system and are later sent by sea to the USSR in large bobbins of thread, packed in large square cartons weighing 250 kilograms each. During the year 1950-1951. eight or nine ships of 7,000-6,000 tons carried cotton cargoes to the USSR.

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